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March 29, 2001

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Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

INFORMATION-DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

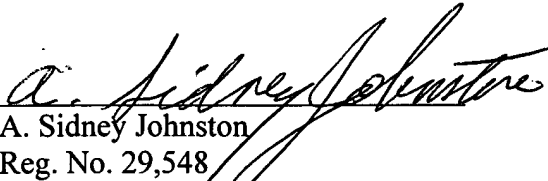
In keeping with the duty of candor and good faith owed to the Patent and Trade-mark Office, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the references listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed reference is enclosed.

To the extent required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), Applicants have described what they consider to be the relevance of any foreign-language reference. It is understood that the Office may find additionally relevant material in these or other references.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account

No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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